

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Swain W. Porter

Application No.: 09/504,236

Filed: February 15, 2000

For: Privacy Enhanced Methods and
Apparatuses for Conducting
Electronic Communication

Examiner: Shingles, Kristie D.

Art Unit: 2141

Confirmation No.: 7611

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450APPELLANT'S APPEAL BRIEF

TO THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

This is Appellant's Brief in support of a Notice of Appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences filed on May 21, 2008, appealing the decision of the Examiner in the Final Office Action mailed February 25, 2008 ("Final Office Action"), in which the claims of the above-captioned application were again rejected. Appellant respectfully requests consideration of this Appeal by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for allowance of the present patent application.

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest in the above-identified application is Hall Aluminum LLC, of Los Altos, CA.

II. RELATED APPEALS

The Appellant's undersigned attorney and the assignee identified above are not aware of other appeals or interferences that would directly affect or be directly affected by, or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the subject Appeal.

III. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-6, 12-20, 24, 26-29, 31-38, 41-46, and 48-71 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and are presently appealed.

Claims 1-6, 15, 16, 20, 28, 29, 41, 45, 46, 56, 57, 59, 60, 62, 64-67, and 71 are rejected over U.S. Patent No. 6,874,023 to Pennell et al. (Pennell) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,205,330 to Winbladh (Winbladh).

Claims 13, 14, 24, 26, 27, 31, 32, 42-44, 48, 49, 58, and 61 are rejected over Pennell in view of Winbladh and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,120,927 to Beyda et al. (Beyda).

Claims 12, 17-19, 33-38, 50-55, 63, and 68-70 are rejected over Pennell in view of Winbladh and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,591,291 to Gabber et al. (Gabber).

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

No amendments have been filed subsequent to the Final Office Action.

V. SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Independent claim 1 is directed toward a method comprising a user computer providing a first email address received from an email service provider for use to register a user of the user computer with a first web site; the user computer providing a second email address received from the email service provider, separate and distinct from the first email address, for use to register said user with a second web site; wherein the first and second email addresses were provided together as a collection of email addresses

to the user computer by the email service provider in advance of providing the first and second email addresses to the first and second web sites by the user computer.

The subject matter of claim 1 may be found in the specification at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 6; page 9, lines 6-25; page 10, lines 17-21; and Figures 1, 2, and 3A, as well as elsewhere throughout the specification.

For example, a user computer 102 providing a first email address received from an email service provider 100 for use to register a user of the user computer 102 with a first web site 112 may be found at page 9, lines 6-8. The user computer 102 providing a second email address received from the email service provider 100, separate and distinct from the first email address, for use to register said user with a second web site 114 may be found at page 9, lines 8-17. The first and second email addresses being provided together as a collection of email addresses to the user computer 102 by the email service provider 100 in advance of providing the first and second email addresses to the first and second web sites (112, 115) by the user computer 102 may be found at page 10, lines 17-21, as well as Figure 3A.

Independent claim 24 is directed toward a method comprising an electronic device requesting and receiving for a user, a first email address from an email service provider at a first point in time subsequent to the user subscribing for email service with the email service provider; the electronic device employing the received first email address to facilitate communication between the user and a first communication partner or group of communication partners; the electronic device, prior to the first communication partner or group of communication partners initiating a communication with the user, notifying the email service provider of said employment of the first email address to facilitate communication with the first communication partner or group of communication partners; the electronic device requesting and receiving for the user, a second email address, separate and distinct from said first email address, from the email service provider at a second point in time subsequent to the user subscribing for email service with the email service provider, the second point in time being a later point in time than the first point in time; the electronic device employing the received second email address to facilitate communication between the user and a second communication partner or group of communication partners; and the electronic device, prior to the second communication

partner or group of communication partners initiating a communication with the user, notifying the email service provider of said employment of the second email address to facilitate communication with the second communication partner or group of communication partners.

The subject matter of claim 24 may be found in the specification at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 6; page 9, lines 6-25; page 11, lines 7-21; and Figures 1, 2, and 3B, as well as elsewhere throughout the specification.

Requesting and receiving a first/second email address and employing the addresses respectively with a first/second web site (112, 114) are discussed at page 9, lines 6-25. The addresses being separate and distinct, in particular, may be found at page 9, lines 8-17. Notifying the email service provider 100 of use of the email address(es) may be found at page 11, lines 7-14. Description of the receipt of the second email address being at a point in time after the first email address may be found at page 11, lines 16-21, and in Figure 3B.

Independent claim 28 is directed toward a method comprising an email service provider registering a user of an electronic device, as a service subscriber of the email service provider; and the email service provider providing together a collection of email addresses, the collection of email addresses having at least a first and a second email address, the first and second email addresses being separate and distinct and being provided by the email service provider to the electronic device for subsequent use by the electronic device to facilitate communication between the user and respectively, a first and a second communication partner or group of communication partners.

The subject matter of claim 28 may be found in the specification at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 6; page 9, lines 6-25; page 10, lines 17-21; and Figures 1, 2, and 3A, as well as elsewhere throughout the specification.

The registration of a user is discussed at page 9, lines 24-25. Email addresses being provided as a collection of addresses is supported at page 10, lines 17-21, as well as Figure 3A. The addresses being separate and distinct, in particular, may be found at page 9, lines 8-17. Support for communicating with an intended communication partner (such as web sites 112, 114) or a group of communication partners may be found at page 9, lines 6-17.

Independent claim 33 is directed toward a method comprising an email service provider receiving emails addressed to a first and a second email address of a user, the first and second email addresses being separate and distinct from each other and having been provided by the email service provider to an electronic device of the user for the electronic device to facilitate communication between the user and a first intended communication partner using the first email address and to facilitate communication between the user and a second intended communication partner using the second email address; and the email service provider organizing said received emails based at least in part on said first and second email addresses of the user, and respective intended versus unintended communication partners of said first email address of the user and respective intended versus unintended communication partners of said second email address of the user.

The subject matter of claim 33 may be found in the specification at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 6; page 9, lines 6-25; page 12, line 22 to page 13, line 9; and Figures 1, 2, and 6, as well as elsewhere throughout the specification.

In particular, receiving emails by the email service provider 100 addressed to a first and second email address may be found at page 12, lines 22-24. The addresses being separate and distinct, in particular, may be found at page 9, lines 8-17. Support for communicating with an intended communication partner (such as web sites 112, 114) or a group of communication partners may be found at page 9, lines 6-17. Organizing the received emails based on the first and second email addresses and respective intended versus unintended communication partners may be found at page 12, lines 24-26.

Independent claim 35 is directed toward a method comprising receiving emails by an electronic device of a user, from an email service provider, wherein the emails are characterized based at least in part on separate and distinct email addresses of the user, and intended versus unintended communication partners of each of said email addresses of the user, and the email addresses of the user are provided to the electronic device for the user by the email service provider; and presenting by the electronic device said emails for viewing by the user, organized by at least said email addresses of the user and said intended versus unintended communication partners of said email addresses.

The subject matter of claim 35 may be found in the specification at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 6; page 9, lines 6-25; page 12, line 22 to page 13, line 13; and Figures 1, 2, and 6, as well as elsewhere throughout the specification.

Receiving emails by a device of the user (such as client computer 102) may be found at page 12, line 24 to page 13, line 13. The addresses being separate and distinct, in particular, may be found at page 9, lines 8-17. Support for communicating with an intended communication partner (such as web sites 112, 114) or a group of communication partners may be found at page 9, lines 6-17. Support for viewing the emails may be found at page 13, lines 13-18. Organizing the received emails based on the first and second email addresses and respective intended versus unintended communication partners may be found at page 12, lines 24-26.

Independent claim 41 is directed toward an apparatus comprising a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions designed to enable the apparatus (when the programming instructions are executed) to obtain respectively a first and a second separate and distinct email address from an email service provider in real time for a user, at the first and second email addresses' respective initial selection for usage, after subscription of email service with the email service provider by the user, and correspondingly earmarking said first and second distinct email addresses to facilitate respective communication between the user and a first and a second communication partner or group of communication partners; and a processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the plurality of programming instructions.

The subject matter of claim 41 may be found in the specification at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 6; page 9, lines 6-25; page 11, lines 20-21; Figures 1, 2, and 3B, and original claims 41, 45, 50, and 52, as well as elsewhere throughout the specification.

Support for the general storage medium and processor components may be found in original claims 41, 45, 50, and 52. Obtaining the addresses from an email service provider 100 in real time and earmarking the addresses for communication with a partner or group of partners (such as web sites 112, 114) may be found at page 9, lines 6-17; page 11, lines 20-21; and in original claim 41. The addresses being separate and distinct, in particular, may be found at page 9, lines 8-17.

Independent claim 45 is directed to an apparatus comprising a storage medium

having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions design to enable the apparatus (when the programming instructions are executed) to register a user as a service subscriber of the apparatus, and to provide together a collection of email addresses having at least a first and a second email address, said first and second email addresses being separate and distinct and being provided to an electronic device of the user for use by the electronic device to facilitate communication between the user and a first and a second communication partner or group of communication partners, the provision being made in advance of the first and second email addresses' initial selection for usage; and a processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the programming instructions.

The subject matter of claim 45 may be found in the specification at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 6; page 9, lines 6-25; page 10, lines 17-21; page 11, lines 20-21; Figures 1, 2, and 3A; and original claims 41, 45, 50, and 52, as well as elsewhere throughout the specification.

Support for the general storage medium and processor components may be found in original claims 41, 45, 50, and 52. The first and second email addresses being provided together as a collection of email addresses in advance of the first and second email addresses being selected for use may be found at page 10, lines 17-21, as well as Figure 3A. The addresses being separate and distinct, in particular, may be found at page 9, lines 8-17. Support for communicating with an intended communication partner (such as web sites 112, 114) or a group of communication partners may be found at page 9, lines 6-17.

Independent claim 50 is directed to an apparatus comprising a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions designed to enable the apparatus (when the programming instructions are executed) to receive emails addressed to a first and a second separate and distinct email address of a user, and to organize said received emails based at least in part on said first and second email addresses, and intended versus unintended communication partners of said first and second email addresses, wherein the first and second email addresses having been provided respectively by an email service provider to an electronic device of the user for the electronic device to facilitate respective communication between the user and a first

and a second intended communication partner; and a processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the plurality of programming instructions.

The subject matter of claim 50 may be found in the specification at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 6; page 9, lines 6-25; page 12, line 22 to page 13, line 9; Figures 1, 2, and 6; and original claims 41, 45, 50, and 52, as well as elsewhere throughout the specification.

Support for the general storage medium and processor components may be found in original claims 41, 45, 50, and 52. In particular, receiving emails addressed to a first and second email address may be found at page 12, lines 22-24. The addresses being separate and distinct, in particular, may be found at page 9, lines 8-17. Support for communicating with an intended communication partner (such as web sites 112, 114) or a group of communication partners may be found at page 9, lines 6-17. Organizing the received emails based on the first and second email addresses and respective intended versus unintended communication partners may be found at page 12, lines 24-26.

Independent claim 52 is directed toward an apparatus comprising a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions designed to enable the apparatus (when the programming instructions are executed) to receive emails of a user from an email service provider, the emails being characterized based at least in part on separate and distinct email addresses of the user, and intended versus unintended communication partners of each of said email addresses, and to present said emails for viewing by the user, organized by at least said email addresses of the user and said intended versus unintended communication partners of said email addresses, the email addresses of the user having been provided by the email service provider; and a processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the plurality of programming instructions.

The subject matter of claim 52 may be found in the specification at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 6; page 9, lines 6-25; page 12, line 22 to page 13, line 13; Figures 1, 2, and 6; and original claims 41, 45, 50, and 52, as well as elsewhere throughout the specification.

Support for the general storage medium and processor components may be found in original claims 41, 45, 50, and 52. Receiving emails from an email service provider

100 may be found at page 12, line 24 to page 13, line 13. The addresses being separate and distinct, in particular, may be found at page 9, lines 8-17. Support for communicating with an intended communication partner (such as web sites 112, 114) or a group of communication partners may be found at page 9, lines 6-17. Support for viewing the emails may be found at page 13, lines 13-18. Organizing the received emails based on the first and second email addresses and respective intended versus unintended communication partners may be found at page 12, lines 24-26.

Independent claim 56 is directed toward a system comprising a networking interface; a storage medium coupled to the networking interface, and having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions designed to enable the system (when the programming instructions are executed) to register a user as a service subscriber of an email service, and to provide together a collection of email addresses having at least a first and a second email address, said first and second email addresses being separate and distinct and being provided to an electronic device of the user for use by the electronic device to facilitate respective communication between the user and a first communication partner or a first group of communication partners, and between the user and a second communication partner or group of communication partners, the provision being made in advance of the first and second email addresses' initial selection for usage; and a processor coupled to the storage medium and the networking interface to execute the programming instructions.

The subject matter of claim 56 may be found in the specification at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 6; page 8, lines 14-23; page 9, lines 6-25; page 10, lines 17-21; Figures 1, 2, and 3A; original claims 41, 45, 50, and 52, as well as elsewhere throughout the specification.

Support for the general networking interface may be found at page 8, lines 14-23. Support for the general storage medium and processor components may be found in original claims 41, 45, 50, and 52. The first and second email addresses being provided together as a collection of email addresses in advance of the first and second email addresses being selected for use may be found at page 10, lines 17-21, as well as Figure 3A. The addresses being separate and distinct, in particular, may be found at page 9, lines 8-17. Support for communicating with an intended communication partner (such as

web sites 112, 114) or a group of communication partners may be found at page 9, lines 6-17.

Independent claim 59 is directed toward a computer readable medium comprising a storage medium; and a plurality of programming instructions stored in the storage medium, the programming instructions designed to program a system, to enable the system (when the programming instructions are executed) to register a user as a service subscriber of an email service, and to provide at least a first and a second email address, that are separate and distinct, to an electronic device of the user for use by the electronic device to facilitate respective communication between the user and a first communication partner or a first group of communication partners, and between the user and a second communication partner or a second group of communication partners, the provision being made in real time respectively at the first and second email addresses' respective initial selection for usage after enrollment of the user as a service subscriber of the email service provider.

The subject matter of claim 59 may be found in the specification at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 6; page 9, lines 6-25; page 11, lines 20-21; Figures 1, 2, and 3B, and original claims 41, 45, 50, and 52, as well as elsewhere throughout the specification.

Support for the general storage medium and processor components may be found in original claims 41, 45, 50, and 52. Obtaining the addresses from an email service provider 100 in real time the addresses for communication with a partner or group of partners (such as web sites 112, 114) may be found at page 9, lines 6-17; page 11, lines 20-21. The addresses being separate and distinct, in particular, may be found at page 9, lines 8-17.

Independent claim 62 is directed toward a method comprising receiving, from an email service provider, a plurality of separate and distinct email addresses as a set of email addresses; detecting a need for an email address to be employed for communication with a first intended communication partner or partners; automatically selecting a first email address from among the plurality of separate and distinct email addresses and storing information relating the first email address to the first intended communication partner or partners; detecting a need for an email address to be employed for communications with a second intended communication partner or

partners; and automatically selecting a second email address from among the plurality of separate and distinct email addresses and storing information relating the second email address to the second intended communication partner or partners.

The subject matter of claim 62 may be found at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 6; page 9, lines 6-25; page 10, line 15 to page 11, line 14; and Figures 1, 2, 3A, as well as elsewhere throughout the specification.

Receiving separate and distinct email addresses as a set of email addresses may be found at page 9, lines 6-25; page 10, lines 17-21; and Figure 3A. Detecting a need for an address may be found at page 11, line 1. Support for automatically selecting an email address from among the plurality of addresses may be found at page 11, lines 1-3. Storing information relating the first email address to the first intended communication partner may be found at page 11, lines 3-4. The process repeats for each subsequent email address needed, see page 11, lines 5-7.

Independent claim 67 is directed toward a computer readable medium, comprising a storage medium; and a plurality of programming instructions stored in the storage medium that, when execute, enable a system to receive, from an email service provider, a plurality of separate and distinct email addresses as a set of email addresses; to detect a need for an email address to be employed for communication with a first intended communication partner or partners; to automatically select a first email address from among the plurality of separate and distinct email addresses and to store information relating the first email address to the first intended communication partner or partners; to detect a need for an email address to be employed for communications with a second intended communication partner or partners; and to automatically select a second email address from among the plurality of separate and distinct email addresses and to store information relating the second email address to the second intended communication partner or partners.

The subject matter of claim 67 may be found at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 6; page 9, lines 6-25; page 10, line 15 to page 11, line 14; Figures 1, 2, 3A; and original claims 41, 45, 50, and 52, as well as elsewhere throughout the specification.

Support for the general storage medium and processor components may be found in original claims 41, 45, 50, and 52. Receiving separate and distinct email addresses as

a set of email addressed may be found at page 9, lines 6-25; page 10, lines 17-21; and Figure 3A. Detecting a need for an address may be found at page 11, line 1. Support for automatically selecting an email address from among the plurality of addresses may be found at page 11, lines 1-3. Storing information relating the first email address to the first intended communication partner may be found at page 11, lines 3-4. The process repeats for each subsequent email address needed, see page 11, lines 5-7.

VI. GROUND OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Whether claims 1-6, 15, 16, 20, 28, 29, 41, 45, 46, 56, 57, 59, 60, 62, 64-67, and 71 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,874,023 to Pennell et al. (Pennell) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,205,330 to Winbladh (Winbladh).

Whether claims 13, 14, 24, 26, 27, 31, 32, 42-44, 48, 49, 58, and 61 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Pennell in view of Winbladh and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,120,927 to Beyda et al. (Beyda).

Whether claims 12, 17-19, 33-38, 50-55, 63, and 68-70 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Pennell in view of Winbladh and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,591,291 to Gabber et al. (Gabber).

VII. ARGUMENT

REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 1-6, 15, 16, 20, 28, 29, 41, 45, 46, 56, 57, 59, 60, 62, 64-67, AND 71 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

As is well established, the Examiner bears the initial burden of factually supporting any *prima facie* conclusion of obviousness. See MPEP 2142. To establish a *prima facie* conclusion of obviousness the factual basis must show (1) a sufficient reason to combine the teachings of the references; (2) a reasonable expectation of success; and (3) the combined teachings must teach or suggest all of the claim elements. The Supreme Court in *Graham v. John Deere Co.* set out the inquiries necessary to develop this factual basis. 383 U.S. 1, 17-18 (1966); see also MPEP 2141. These inquiries include determining the scope and content of the prior art; ascertaining the differences between

the prior art and the claims at issue; and resolving the level of ordinary skill in the art.

The Examiner has failed to provide a sufficient factual basis to support a *prima facie* case of obviousness of claims 1-6, 12-20, 24, 26-29, 31-38, 41-46, and 48-71 over any combination of the cited references.

In particular, ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue requires interpreting the claim language, and considering both the invention and the prior art references as a whole. See MPEP 2141.02. This has not been done, as further detailed below.

Pennell and Winbladh

Claims 1-6, 15, 16, 20, 28, 29, 41, 45, 46, 56, 57, 59, 60, 62, 64-67, and 71 are rejected over Pennell in view of Winbladh.

Claim 1 recites a method comprising a user computer providing a first email address received from an email service provider for use to register a user of the user computer with a first web site; the user computer providing a second email address received from the email service provider, separate and distinct from the first email address, for use to register said user with a second web site; wherein the first and second email addresses were provided together as a collection of email addresses to the user computer by the email service provider in advance of providing the first and second email addresses to the first and second web sites by the user computer.

Thus, according to claim 1, a user computer communicates with an email service provider to receive first and second separate and distinct email addresses provided together and in advance of the user computer in turn providing the first and second email addresses to the first and second web sites to register a user.

Pennell is cited for teaching the provision of email addresses for use to register a user with a first and second website. Notably, the system in Pennell self-generates individual email addresses as needed, and thus does not receive email addresses from an email service provider as recited in claim 1. In addition, Pennell fails to teach the provision of the first and second email addresses to the user computer as a collection of email addresses. In the Final Office Action, the Examiner asserted that the email addresses in Pennell have to be inherently provided by an email service provider in

advance. Applicant respectfully disagree. Pennell may self-generate the individual email addresses based e.g. on a number of rules or policies that provide for resulting email addresses that are servicable by an email service provider. It is not inherent Pennell's system be provided with the email addresses by an email service provider in advance. Even if we ignore the foregoing, it is not inherent that an email service provider provides the email addresses in advance as a collection as recited in claim 1.

Winbladh further does not teach provision of first and second email addresses, as a collection of email addresses, that are "separate and distinct," as recited in claim 1.

Winbladh teaches the provision of a primary email address and at least one alias address. An alias address is associated with and dependent on the primary address, and thus the addresses are not "separate and distinct." An alias address is translated into the primary address upon use or an access attempt. Thus, there is a clear required connection between the alias address and the primary address, as the alias is simply a stand-in for the primary address. Such a coupled relationship lends itself to provision jointly, whereas the provision of separate and distinct email addresses in a collection of email addresses, as recited in claim 1, is not taught or suggested.

The "separate and distinct" email addresses of claim 1 cannot be read as simply proxy or alias addresses, which would not provide the recited separateness or distinctiveness. Proxy and alias addresses are translated into the primary address upon receipt of a message, thus all messages received using any of such addresses are routed to the primary address. The connected and dependent non-distinct relationship of such addresses is thus required.

The method of claim 1 rather provides for multiple separate and distinct email addresses to be provided, as a collection of email addresses, for use, respectively, to register with different websites. Thus, the user computer has access to the provided email addresses in advance of registering with the websites, thus potentially saving time and resources when the addresses are needed. These features are not provided by the cited references.

The Final Office Action at page 3 indicates that "all messages from a particular web entity are sorted according to the unique email address used by the web entity (Figure 5, col. 3 lines 13-20, 54-65), which supports that the unique email address is

obviously 'separate and distinct' since it is able to be distinctly sorted and separated from other messages received from other websites/communication partners. . . ." The Final Office Action misstates the material presented in Pennell.

Figure 5 of Pennell and the associated text merely show that incoming messages in a user's mailbox may be sorted as desired by the user, such as according to the identity of the sender (*i.e.*, the messages are sorted not by the email address of the user, but rather by the identification of the sender). Figure 5 simply shows a list of senders of messages sorted in alphabetical order by the name of the sender. The cited portion of Pennell further shows that any messages sent using proxy addresses are routed to a single email box further highlighting the dependent nature of such email addresses. Col. 3, lines 61-65, indicates that different email addresses may be used but messages are all received at a single location.

Further, Applicant submits that the manner the Final Office Action addressed the recitations of claim 1, does not conform to the requirement of viewing the invention as a whole. The Final Office Action addressed the "advance" provision of the email addresses, and that the email addresses are "separate and distinct", but without addressing the recitation that claim 1 recites the advance provision of separate and distinct email addresses are in a collection. Therefore, for at least the foregoing reasons, Pennell and Winbladh fail to teach or suggest at least one element of claim 1, and thus claim 1 is patentable over the cited references under §103(a).

Claims 28, 41, 45, 56, 59, 62, and 67 contain language similar to that of claim 1 and are therefore patentable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

In addition, independent claim 41 adds the concepts of obtaining email addresses in real time, and earmarking the email addresses for use with a first and second communication partner. The cited references fail to teach or suggest such features, and the Final Office Action is silent in this regard. As discussed above, Pennell describes the creation of email addresses when needed, but does not discuss obtaining separate and distinct email addresses in real time and earmarking the addresses for use with certain communication partners, as recited in claim 41. The additionally noted feature of claim 41 provides for email addresses that are, in essence, set aside for use with a specific

communication partner. Such a feature is not provided by the cited references.

Additionally, claim 62, and similarly claim 67, provides for detecting a need for an email address to be employed for communication with an intended communication partner(s) and automatically selecting a first and second email address from among a plurality of email addresses and storing information relating the email addresses to the intended communication partner(s). These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Further, these features are not discussed in the Final Office Action.

Claim 2-6, 15, 16, 20, 29, 46, 57, 60, 64-66, and 71 are dependent on claims 1, 28, 41, 45, 56, 59, 62, and 67 respectively incorporating their elements and are thus patentable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above.

REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 13, 14, 24, 26, 27, 31, 32, 42-44, 48, 49, 58, AND 61
UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Pennell, Winbladh, and Beyda

Claims 13, 14, 24, 26, 27, 31, 32, 42-44, 48, 49, 58, and 61 are rejected over Pennell in view of Winbladh and further in view of Beyda.

Claims 13, 14, 31, 32, 42-44, 48, 49, 58, and 61 are dependent directly or indirectly on claims 1, 28, 41, 45, 56, and 59 and thus are patentable over Pennell and Winbladh for at least the reasons discussed above. Beyda fails to overcome the deficiencies of Pennell and Winbladh discussed above and thus claims 13, 14, 31, 32, 42-44, 48, 49, 58, and 61 are patentable over the cited references.

Claim 24 recites a method comprising an electronic device requesting and receiving for a user, a first email address from an email service provider at a first point in time subsequent to the user subscribing for email service with the email service provider; the electronic device employing the received first email address to facilitate communication between the user and a first communication partner or group of communication partners; the electronic device, prior to the first communication partner or group of communication partners initiating a communication with the user, notifying the email service provider of said employment of the first email address to facilitate communication with the first communication partner or group of communication partners; the electronic device requesting and receiving for the user, a second email address, separate and distinct from said first email address, from the email service provider at a

second point in time subsequent to the user subscribing for email service with the email service provider, the second point in time being a later point in time than the first point in time; the electronic device employing the received second email address to facilitate communication between the user and a second communication partner or group of communication partners; and the electronic device, prior to the second communication partner or group of communication partners initiating a communication with the user, notifying the email service provider of said employment of the second email address to facilitate communication with the second communication partner or group of communication partners.

Pennell is cited for teaching an electronic device requesting and receiving for a user from an email service provider a series of email addresses. Notably, the system in Pennell self-generates individual email addresses as needed, and thus does not receive email addresses from an email service provider as recited in claim 24. Winblad discusses the creation of alias and proxy addresses, which are not separate and distinct addresses (as discussed in detail above) and which have nothing to do with the notification operations discussed above. The Final Office Action agrees, and thus Beyda is cited.

Beyda is cited for teaching the notification operations of claim 24; however, Beyda does not teach (1) receiving email addresses from an email service provider, and (2) providing notice back to the email service provider when the email address is used (3) with particular communication partners. In Beyda, the CPU described provides a gating/relay function, but is not an email service provider as defined by the specification and claims of the current application. Beyda supports this notion and is clear that the CPU generates aliases to provide anonymity and then redirects or relays messages routed through the CPU, but passes those messages along to the users actual email account handled by the email service provider. Thus, the email service provider is essentially removed from such an operation. In claim 24, however, the email service provider is the one that provides the email addresses.

In addition to the difference described above, in claim 24, after use of the email address, the email service provider is notified of usage of the email address. Such notification of usage sent from the electronic device to the email service provider occurs

before the communication partner initiates communication with the user. Thus, the email service provider is forewarned of the potential communication from the communication partner. This feature is not taught by Beyda. Rather, Beyda provides a mechanism to relay messages based on the particular alias address utilized. Such a function further distinguishes Beyda from claim 24 in that claim 24 provides for notification of usage of the email address for communication with a communication partner or group of partners. This notification is specific as to that particular usage. In Beyda, the system requires communication partners to be registered to provide notice of proper incoming communications, but the system of claim 24 rather provides a notification operation from the initial user to ensure the messaging service is alerted to the propriety of an incoming message received from a particular communication partner.

Therefore, Pennell, Winbladh, and Beyda fail to teach at least one element of claim 24, and thus claim 24 is patentable over the cited references.

Claims 26 and 27 are dependent on claim 24 incorporating its elements and thus are patentable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above.

REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 12, 17-19, 33-38, 50-55, 63, AND 68-70 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Pennell, Winbladh, and Gabber

Claims 12, 17-19, 33-38, 50-55, 63, and 68-70 are rejected over Pennell in view of Winbladh and further in view of Gabber.

Claims 12, 17-19, 63, and 68-70 are dependent directly or indirectly on claims 1, 62, and 67 and thus are patentable over Pennell and Winbladh for at least the reasons discussed above. Gabber fails to overcome the deficiencies of Pennell and Winbladh discussed above and thus claims 12, 17-19, 63, and 68-70 are patentable over the cited references.

Further, with respect to claim 12, claim 12 provides for the user computer notifying the email service provider of the usage of the first and second email addresses, including addresses of the first and the second web site. In response thereto, the Final Office Action cites Gabber (Column 3, lines 35-41 and Column 8, lines 27-50). The cited sections of Gabber teach the mechanism for handling incoming messages using an alias

address. The message may be blocked if matched to a “reject” list or translated into the source address if the receipt of the message is allowed. However, these teachings do not discuss the user computer notifying the email service provider of the use of the first and second email addresses, including the websites with which the email addresses have been employed. The method recited in claim 12 provides for communication of both usage of the email addresses and the particular websites with which the addresses have been utilized so that the email service provider may properly monitor the usage and/or properly handle the incoming messages. The described notification operation is however not provided by Gabber. Gabber provides for the use of the alias source address, which is the user’s address, but Gabber does not provide any teaching of providing notification to the email service provider of the addresses of the websites with which the user is communicating. Gabber is therefore clearly different from the recitation of claim 12.

Gabber provides a mechanism to generate an alias email address for a user based in part on the destination address. The Final Office Action suggests that the creation of such an address renders obvious the notification operation of claim 12; however, no such teaching or suggestion is provided in Gabber. The Final Office Action states that creating an alias address using in part the destination address relates the destination and address and thus renders obvious the features of claim 12, namely (1) notifying an email service provider of the usage of the first and second email addresses, including (2) addresses of the first and the second web site. Nowhere in Gabber is there any teaching or suggestion of a notification being provided to an email service provider of the usage of the email addresses. In addition, the mere relation of the alias address and the destination is not the same as notification to an email service provider of the first and second web sites. These features are relevant to the invention recited in claim 12, but have little purpose in Gabber as Gabber uses an alternative mechanism to identify the sender in a particular message.

Thus, claim 12 is patentable over the cited references for this additional reason. Claims 13 and 14 are dependent on claim 12 and thus are patentable over the cited references for at least the additional reasons described above with respect to claim 12.

Claim 33 recites a method comprising an email service provider receiving emails

addressed to a first and a second email address of a user, the first and second email addresses being separate and distinct from each other and having been provided by the email service provider to an electronic device of the user for the electronic device to facilitate respective communication between the user and a first and a second intended communication partner; and the email service provider organizing said received emails based at least in part on said first and second email addresses of the user, and respective intended versus unintended communication partners of said first and second email addresses of the user.

Claim 33 is patentable over Pennell and Winbladh for the reasons discussed above. Furthermore, with respect to claim 33, the Final Office Action admits that Pennell and Winbladh fail to teach organizing the received emails based at least in part on the first and second email addresses of the user, and respective intended versus unintended communication partners of the first and second email addresses. Thus, the Final Office Action cites Gabber.

Gabber does not provide any teaching of sorting received emails based on intended versus unintended status of communication partners of an email address. Gabber simply provides a separate email box for each email address but, within an email address box, there is no sorting of the messages based on intended versus unintended communication partners. In addition, Gabber provides a mechanism to sort emails based on the email address that is converted within the system from the base address. The converted email address may be utilized by a communication partner, and thus, based on the converted address, the system can sort the received messages. However, as multiple parties (intended and unintended) may use the same address, and such messages may be equally received and handled, the system clearly does not provide a mechanism to sort between intended and unintended communication partners of a single email address. In fact, Gabber indicates at Column 3, lines 30-34, that the system would permit receipt of messages from unintended partners (junk mail) and that the system could be used to trace the origin of the address and possibly determine how the unintended party obtained access to the email address. Such a system, however, does not provide a mechanism to organize the incoming emails received based on the status of the communication partner, but rather provides a mechanism to determine, after the

messages have been received and sorted based on the address, whether the email was authorized and, if not, to try to determine how the access was improperly granted.

The Final Office Action further points to Column 8 of Gabber for teaching the use of a “reject” alias source address for filtering received messages. Such a “reject” operation is not based on the party sending such a message (the web site, communication partner), but rather is based on the selection by the user to move that alias address to a list that is comprised of “reject” addresses. Thus, in Gabber, the user does not identify the websites the user is communicating with, but rather provides a mechanism for a received message having a user alias to be compared with a “reject” list to determine whether that message should be transmitted, regardless of the particular party sending the message. This differs clearly from the features of claim 33.

Finally, the Final Office Action at page 5 suggests that, in Gabber and Pennell, the user has the ability to sort messages in a variety of ways. However, claim 33 recites that the email service provider organizes the emails as such is intended to address the routing of the messages properly at that level, not simply after receipt by the user.

Therefore, Pennell, Winbladh, and Gabber fail to teach at least one element of claim 33, and thus claim 33 is patentable over the cited references.

Claims 35, 50, and 52 contain language similar to that discussed above with respect to claim 33. As claim 33 is patentable over Pennell, Winbladh, and Gabber, so are claims 35, 50, and 52 for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 33.

Claims 34, 36-38, and 53-55 are dependent on claims 33, 35, 50, and 52 incorporating their elements respectively. Therefore, for at least the same reasons discussed above, claims 34, 36-38, and 53-55 are patentable over Pennell, Winbladh, and Gabber.

VIII. CONCLUSION

Appellant respectfully submits that all the appealed claims in this application are patentable and requests that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences overrule the Examiner and direct allowance of the rejected claims.

This brief is submitted with a check for \$510 or an authorization to charge a deposit account to cover the appeal fee for one other than a small entity as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(c). We do not believe any other fees are needed. However, should that be necessary, please charge Deposit Account No. 500393. In addition, please credit any overages to the same account.

SCHWABE, WILLIAMSON & WYATT, P.C.

Dated: July 21, 2008

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CLAIMS APPENDIX

1. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:
 - a user computer providing a first email address received from an email service provider for use to register a user of the user computer with a first web site;
 - the user computer providing a second email address received from the email service provider, separate and distinct from the first email address, for use to register said user with a second web site;
 - wherein the first and second email addresses were provided together as a collection of email addresses to the user computer by the email service provider in advance of providing the first and second email addresses to the first and second web sites by the user computer.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first email address comprises a first user identifier, and the second email address comprises a second user identifier, separate and distinct from said first user identifier.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first email address comprises an address of the email service provider, and the second email address comprises the address of the same email service provider.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first email address comprises a first user identifier and an address of the email service provider, and the second email address comprises a second user identifier, separate and distinct from said first user identifier, and the address of the same email service provider.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said providing of the first and second email addresses by the user computer comprises selecting by said user computer said first and second email addresses from a collection of email addresses provided by said email service provider to said user computer prior to the selection.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the method further

comprises the user computer obtaining the distinct email addresses from the email service provider in advance of the selection.

7-11. (Cancelled).

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the user computer notifying the email service provider of the usage of the first and second email addresses, including addresses of the first and the second web site.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein said notifications are performed integrally as said first and second email addresses are respectively provided to said user computer for use to respectively register the user with the first and second web sites.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein said notifications are performed subsequently in batch after said first and second email addresses were provided to said user computer for use to register the user with the first and the second web sites.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:
receiving emails addressed to said first and second email addresses;
organizing said received emails based at least in part on whether the emails are addressed to the first or the second email address.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein said organizing of said received emails is at least further based on whether said received emails addressed to said first or second email addresses were sent respectively by said first or second web site or not.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the method further comprises deleting all received emails addressed to said first or second email addresses

not sent respectively by said first or second web site, while preserving all undeleted emails addressed to said first or second email addresses sent respectively by said first or second web site.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the deleting of received emails not sent by said first or second web site and preserving all undeleted emails is performed in response to an instruction of said user.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the method further comprises providing the user with an end user interface feature to provide said deletion instruction with a single press of a key or control button.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the web site is a content provider, a service provider or an access provider.

21-23. (Cancelled).

24. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

- an electronic device requesting and receiving for a user, a first email address from an email service provider at a first point in time subsequent to the user subscribing for email service with the email service provider;

- the electronic device employing the received first email address to facilitate communication between the user and a first communication partner or group of communication partners;

- the electronic device, prior to the first communication partner or group of communication partners initiating a communication with the user, notifying the email service provider of said employment of the first email address to facilitate communication with the first communication partner or group of communication partners;

- the electronic device requesting and receiving for the user, a second email address, separate and distinct from said first email address, from the email service provider at a second point in time subsequent to the user subscribing for email service

with the email service provider, the second point in time being a later point in time than the first point in time;

the electronic device employing the received second email address to facilitate communication between the user and a second communication partner or group of communication partners; and

the electronic device, prior to the second communication partner or group of communication partners initiating a communication with the user, notifying the email service provider of said employment of the second email address to facilitate communication with the second communication partner or group of communication partners.

25. (Cancelled).

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said notifications are made integrally when the electronic device makes respective requests for said first and second email address from said email service provider.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said notifications are made respectively after the electronic device have been respectively provided with said first and second email address from said email service provider.

28. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

a email service provider registering a user of an electronic device, as a service subscriber of the email service provider; and

the email service provider providing together a collection of email addresses, said collection of email addresses having at least a first and a second email address, said first and second email addresses being separate and distinct and being provided by the email service provider to the electronic device for subsequent use by the electronic device to facilitate communication between the user and respectively, a first and a second communication partner or group of communication partners.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein said providing together a collection of email address comprises the email service provider providing a plurality of other distinct email addresses to the electronic device.

30. (Cancelled).

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises the email service provider receiving notification of usage of said first email address with said first communication partner or group of communication partners, from the electronic device used by the user.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises the email service provider receiving notification of usage of said second email addresses with said second communication partner or group of communication partners, from the electronic device used by the user.

33. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

an email service provider receiving emails addressed to a first and a second email address of a user, the first and second email addresses being separate and distinct from each other and having been provided by the email service provider to an electronic device of the user for the electronic device to facilitate communication between the user and a first intended communication partner using the first email address and to facilitate communication between the user and a second intended communication partner using the second email address; and

the email service provider organizing said received emails based at least in part on said first and second email addresses of the user, and respective intended versus unintended communication partners of said first email address of the user and respective intended versus unintended communication partners of said second email address of the user.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the method further comprises providing

said emails to the user, with the emails characterized by at least said first and second email addresses, and intended versus unintended communication partners of said first and second email addresses.

35. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

receiving emails by an electronic device of a user, from an email service provider, wherein the emails are characterized based at least in part on separate and distinct email addresses of the user, and intended versus unintended communication partners of each of said email addresses of the user, and the email addresses of the user are provided to the electronic device for the user by the email service provider; and

presenting by the electronic device said emails for viewing by the user, organized by at least said email addresses of the user and said intended versus unintended communication partners of said email addresses.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the method further comprises the electronic device deleting all received emails addressed to the first or second email address not sent respectively by the intended communication partner of the first/second email address.

37. (Original) The method of claim 36, wherein said deletion is performed in response to user instruction.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the method further comprises the electronic device providing the user with an end user interface feature to provide said user instruction with a single press of a key or control button.

39-40. (Cancelled).

41. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions designed to enable the apparatus (when the programming instructions are executed) to

obtain respectively a first and a second separate and distinct email address from an email service provider in real time for a user, at the first and second email addresses' respective initial selection for usage, after subscription of email service with the email service provider by the user, and correspondingly earmarking said first and second distinct email addresses to facilitate respective communication between the user and a first and a second communication partner or group of communication partners; and
a processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the plurality of programming instructions.

42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the programming instructions (when executed) further enable the apparatus to notify of said employment of the first and second email addresses to facilitate respective communication between the user and the first and second communication partner or group of communication partners.

43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the programming instructions (when executed) enable the apparatus to make said notifications integrally and respectively, when requesting for the first and second email addresses from said email service provider.

44. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the programming instructions (when executed) enable the apparatus to make each of said notifications after having been provided with the respective first and second email addresses from said email service provider.

45. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:
a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions design to enable the apparatus (when the programming instructions are executed) to register a user as a service subscriber of the apparatus, and to provide together a collection of email addresses having at least a first and a second email address, said first and second email addresses being separate and distinct and being provided to an

electronic device of the user for use by the electronic device to facilitate communication between the user and a first and a second communication partner or group of communication partners, the provision being made in advance of the first and second email addresses' initial selection for usage; and

a processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the programming instructions.

46. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 45, wherein the programming instructions (when executed) enable the apparatus to provide a plurality of distinct email addresses to the electronic device used by the user in advance of the first and second email addresses' initial selection for usage, for the electronic device to select said first and second separate and distinct email addresses.

47. (Cancelled).

48. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 45, wherein the programming instructions (when executed) further enable the apparatus to receive notification of usage of said first email address with said first communication partner or group of communication partners, from the electronic device used by the user.

49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 45, wherein the programming instructions (when executed) enable the apparatus to receive notification of usage of said second email address with said second communication partner or group of communication partners from the electronic device used by the user.

50. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions designed to enable the apparatus (when the programming instructions are executed) to receive emails addressed to a first and a second separate and distinct email address of a user, and to organize said received emails based at least in part on said first and second email addresses, and intended versus unintended communication partners of said first

and second email addresses, wherein the first and second email addresses having been provided respectively by an email service provider to an electronic device of the user for the electronic device to facilitate respective communication between the user and a first and a second intended communication partner; and

a processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the plurality of programming instructions.

51. (Original) The apparatus of claim 50, wherein the programming instructions (when executed) further enable the apparatus to provide said emails to the user, with the emails characterized by at least said first and second email addresses, and intended versus unintended communication partners of said first and second email addresses.

52. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions designed to enable the apparatus (when the programming instructions are executed) to receive emails of a user from an email service provider, the emails being characterized based at least in part on separate and distinct email addresses of the user, and intended versus unintended communication partners of each of said email addresses, and to present said emails for viewing by the user, organized by at least said email addresses of the user and said intended versus unintended communication partners of said email addresses, the email addresses of the user having been provided by the email service provider; and

a processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the plurality of programming instructions.

53. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 52, wherein the programming instructions (when executed) further enable the apparatus to delete all received emails addressed to the first or second email address not sent respectively by the intended communication partner(s) of the first or second email address.

54. (Original) The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the programming instructions (when

executed) further enable the apparatus to perform said deletion in response to user instruction.

55. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the programming instructions (when executed) further enable the apparatus to provide the user with an end user interface feature to provide said user instruction with a single press of a key or control button.

56. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

- a networking interface;

- a storage medium coupled to the networking interface, and having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions designed to enable the system (when the programming instructions are executed) to register a user as a service subscriber of an email service, and to provide together a collection of email addresses having at least a first and a second email address, said first and second email addresses being separate and distinct and being provided to an electronic device of the user for use by the electronic device to facilitate respective communication between the user and a first communication partner or a first group of communication partners, and between the user and a second communication partner or group of communication partners, the provision being made in advance of the first and second email addresses' initial selection for usage; and

- a processor coupled to the storage medium and the networking interface to execute the programming instructions.

57. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 56, wherein the programming instructions (when executed) enable the system to provide a plurality of distinct email addresses to the electronic device used by the user for the electronic device to select said first and second separate and distinct email addresses for used by the user for said respective communications, the provision being made in advance of the first and second email addresses' selection for initial selection for usage,.

58. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 56, wherein the programming instructions (when executed) further enable the system to receive notification of usage of said first and second email addresses with said respective first or second communication partner or group of communication partners, from the electronic device used by the user.

59. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium comprising:
a storage medium; and
a plurality of programming instructions stored in the storage medium, the programming instructions designed to program a system, to enable the system (when the programming instructions are executed) to register a user as a service subscriber of an email service, and to provide at least a first and a second email address, that are separate and distinct, to an electronic device of the user for use by the electronic device to facilitate respective communication between the user and a first communication partner or a first group of communication partners, and between the user and a second communication partner or a second group of communication partners, the provision being made in real time respectively at the first and second email addresses' respective initial selection for usage after enrollment of the user as a service subscriber of the email service provider.

60. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 59, wherein the programming instructions (when executed) enable the system to provide in real time respectively said first and second email addresses to the electronic device for use by the user, the provision being made in response respectively to a first and a second request, and the first and second requests being made at the first and second email addresses respective initial selection for usage.

61. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 59, wherein the programming instructions (when executed) further enable the system to receive notification of respective usage of said first and second email addresses with said first and second communication partners or groups of communication partners, from the electronic device used by the user.

62. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

receiving, from an email service provider, a plurality of separate and distinct email addresses as a set of email addresses;

detecting a need for an email address to be employed for communication with a first intended communication partner or partners;

automatically selecting a first email address from among the plurality of separate and distinct email addresses and storing information relating the first email address to the first intended communication partner or partners;

detecting a need for an email address to be employed for communications with a second intended communication partner or partners; and

automatically selecting a second email address from among the plurality of separate and distinct email addresses and storing information relating the second email address to the second intended communication partner or partners.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 62, further comprising:

sending information to the email service provider relating the first email address to the first intended communication partner or partners and the second email address to the second intended communication partner or partners.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 62, further comprising:

receiving email that is addressed to the first and second email addresses, the email including email sent from the first and second intended communication partner or partners and email sent from other sources; and

providing a user interface that segregates the received email into email sent from the intended communication partner or partners and email sent from other sources.

65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, further comprising:

segregating the received email via the user interface into different inboxes corresponding to each of the first and second email addresses, and, for each inbox, different folders corresponding to email respectively sent from an intended

communication partner or partners associated with the corresponding email address and email sent from other sources to the corresponding email address associated with that inbox.

66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 62, further comprising:
generating and sending a request to the email service provider to return a set of email addresses including a plurality of distinct email addresses.

67. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium, comprising:
a storage medium; and
a plurality of programming instructions stored in the storage medium that, when execute, enable a system to receive, from an email service provider, a plurality of separate and distinct email addresses as a set of email addresses; to detect a need for an email address to be employed for communication with a first intended communication partner or partners; to automatically select a first email address from among the plurality of separate and distinct email addresses and to store information relating the first email address to the first intended communication partner or partners; to detect a need for an email address to be employed for communications with a second intended communication partner or partners; and to automatically select a second email address from among the plurality of separate and distinct email addresses and to store information relating the second email address to the second intended communication partner or partners.

68. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67, further comprising:
programming instructions that, when executed, enable the system to send information to the email service provider relating the first email address to the first intended communication partner or partners and the second email address to the second intended communication partner or partners.

69. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67, further

comprising:

programming instructions that, when executed, enable the system to receive email that is addressed to the first and second email addresses, the email including email sent from the first and second intended communication partner or partners and email sent from other sources; and to provide a user interface that segregates the received email into email sent from the intended communication partner or partners and email sent from other sources.

70. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 69, further comprising:

programming instructions that, when executed, enable the system to segregate the received email via the user interface into different inboxes corresponding to each of the first and second email addresses, and, for each inbox, different folders corresponding to email respectively sent from an intended communication partner or partners associated with the corresponding email address and email sent from other sources to the corresponding email address associated with that inbox.

71. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67, further comprising:

programming instructions that, when executed, enable the system to generate and send a request to the email service provider to return a set of email addresses including a plurality of distinct email addresses.

EVIDENCE APPENDIX

None.

RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

None.